

Both Buc teams staying strong



Photo/Brandon Lovett

After the Gadsden State victory on Feb. 17, the Lady Bucs record rose to 23-2 and 8-1 in the conference. The guys are 22-4 and 9-1 in ACCC play.

Both the women's and men's basketball squads remain the odds-on favorites in the state tournament coming up March 6-12 on the Shelton campus.

Recent play has done little to diminish the hopes and expectations of the fans and players, though the coaches remain understandably wary about the pressures of being both favored and at home in an all-important tournament.

If the truth be told, the men seemed to be peaking toward the end of the season, doing some of their best shooting in recent games against high-scoring opponents.

While the women, while

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On my way to school one day, I dropped by a local shopping center...



Photo/Amy P. Oswalt

...when a loud boom, which I thought was a car wreck, grabbed my attention. Just outside of Planet Beach in the FoodWorld shopping center near Shelton, where I stopped to get a quick tan, a car engine exploded. Flames began to whip against the windshield, and a crowd began to form—most wondering if they should move their cars or stay out of danger's way by getting back in the stores. The passengers of the vehicle were unharmed, but the car was engulfed with flames by the time Tuscaloosa Firefighters entered on the scene, quickly putting out the melted mass. As the car was being towed away, I thought about what Coach Paul W. "Bear" Bryant used to say: expect the unexpected. Amy P. Oswalt

A Semi-formal opening to the baseball season



Buccaneer baseball coach Bobby Sprowl told the freshmen they had to report for their first road-trip in jacket and tie. Discovering the sophomores had no such attire requirements, some of them staged a "short" naked protest.

By Matt Celozzi
Staff Writer

Most people that head down to Florida this time of year do so seeking out sun and relaxation. Coach Sprowl and the Shelton State baseball team are looking for something else: stiff competition. On Tuesday afternoon, the Bucs departed for Panama City to play 5 games against some top teams. While most squads spend this early part of the season scrimmaging against each other, Coach

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Batter Up! Softball team takes to the field



The women's softball team stepped into the batter's box for the 2005 home season on Feb. 15 under new coach Mitch Mitchell.

By Matt Celozzi
Staff Writer

The Shelton State Lady Bucs softball team split a pair of double-headers last week against Wallace-Hanceville and Gadsden State.

On Tuesday, the Bucs dropped both games to Wallace, losing the first 2-0 and the second 4-0. Some late errors proved to be costly for Shelton. On Thursday, the gods of hitting smiled on the Lady Bucs against Gadsden State. Shelton won both games, 3-1 and 4-0 respectively. Solid pitching was prevalent throughout both days, but timely hitting seemed hard to come by, according to Coach Mitchell.

The Lady Bucs play Tuesday against Beville-Sumiton at 1 p.m.

Inside The Courier

- Shelton's own Kiana Robinson jumps to no. 1 JC recruit in the nation... page 6
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Applications are now available in the Counseling Center on the Martin Campus and in the Main Office on the Fredd Campus for the following College Awards:

I.W. Mitchell Outstanding Technical Student Award

Selection is based on academic achievement, involvement in campus and community activities, technical recognition, and job related activities.

Norman C. Cephus Special Achievement Award

Selection is based on academic achievement, involvement in campus and community activities, technical recognition, and job related activities.

Thomas E. Umphrey Outstanding Freshman Award

Selection is based on outstanding academic achievement and involvement in campus activities.

Harold I. James Outstanding Technical Student Award

Selection is based on accomplishments in the classroom and workplace.

James B. Allen Award

Selection is based on academic achievement and service to the College and community.

Leo Sumner Outstanding Sophomore Award

Selection is based on outstanding academic performance, school involvement, and community service. It is the highest honor that a student can earn at Shelton State Community College.

Completed applications are due on or before noon, March 1 to Bonnie Sabbagh in the Dean of Students Office on the Martin Campus or to Katherine Williams in the Main Office on the Fredd Campus.

ShelTalk

Recently I had the opportunity to attend both a men's and women's basketball game at Shelton.

We were playing Snead State and won both games by a comfortable margin and handled them rather easily.

The fans seemed to be rather impressed judging by their applause. In the men's game, fans got the chance to see an off the glass alley-oop dunk, which electrified the home crowd.

"I think that the crowd is just terrific," said Susan Mohun, assistant dean of Student Services.

The night before, I saw Duke vs. North Carolina and couldn't help but notice the size of the crowd.

At certain points in the game you could actually see the coliseum shake because the fans there were so excited.

So I thought to myself, why can't we have a home court advantage similar to that

of Duke University.

The Umphrey Center can fill a maximum of 1800 students. Even though some games get close to being sold-out, most don't. If they did, Sheltonian basketball players would have a serious home court advantage.

Student Marcus Minor shares those sentiments. "The games are a big thrill. The crowd is really enthusiastic but getting more support from the students would be even nicer," said Minor.

"It's the best basketball in the town and the entire state for that matter. The admission is free and you are guaranteed to have a good time. The games are really fast paced. They're never dull—there are lots of three pointers. And in the men's game there are tons of dunks," said Mohun.

Beginning March 6, Shelton State will host the men's and women's Division I

March Madness close to home

By AnTonio Nevels



AnTonio Nevels is a sophomore at Shelton State.

State Basketball Tournament. The tournament will consist of approximately 24 games starting with the women's game at 2 p.m.

The men's tournament begins Wednesday, March 9, at noon. The women's championship game will be held at 8 p.m. See the complete tournament schedule on page 5 of the *Courier*.

Wouldn't it be nice to experience March Madness instead of watching it on television?



Photo/Amy P. Oswalt

Let's Talk About It...

The second meeting of the Jewish Literature reading and discussion series was held on Feb. 10 at the Gorgas Library. Dr. Steven L. Jacobs, University of Alabama associate professor, was the scholar in charge of the literary discussion and, at times, some seemingly heated debate. The next book discussion will be held Feb. 24 from 7—8:30 p.m. For more information contact Marcia Barrett at 205/348-6390.

Shelton State Courier

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The *Shelton State Courier* is a campus newspaper, written and produced with the help of students.

Among other functions, it is intended as a vehicle for student expression, and all students are urged to participate with submissions of written and artistic material.

The college seeks to fulfill the statement for academic freedom in working

with the students in the production of this paper.

All publications are subject to review by the Publications Action Group, which has been delegated the responsibility to review all college publications for content and accuracy.

The *Courier* is an equal opportunity employer and student organization. All students are encouraged to participate.

Practicing professor and professional singing for 'Tuesday'

The Terrific Tuesday Concert on March 8 will feature Dr. Roderick George, a multi-talented instructor of music at the University of Montevallo.

Tenor Roderick George maintains an active and varied performance career appearing frequently as an orchestral



Dr. Roderick George will perform March 8 in the Alabama Power Recital Hall at Shelton's Martin Campus.

soloist, recitalist, and in leading and supporting roles of opera, operetta, and music theater. Recent concert engagements include Mozart's Mass in C Minor and Beethoven's Ninth Symphony with the Tuscaloosa Symphony, and Honegger's King David at the University of Alabama at Birmingham.

Recent operatic roles include *Camille de Rosillion* in the Robert Johanson New York City Opera adaptation of *The Merry Widow* with the Jefferson Performing Arts Society of New Orleans, David in *John Adams' I Was Looking at the Ceiling and Then I Saw the Sky* with Lyric Opera Cleveland, and Aaron James in Mike Reid's *Different Fields* with Alabama Operaworks.

Other opera roles include Don Ottavio in *Don Giovanni*, Ferrando in *Così fan tutte*, Gastone in *La Traviata*, Caius in *Falstaff*, Albert in *Albert Herring*, Benedict in *Beatrice and Benedict*, Gherardo in *Gianni Schicchi*, and the Duke in *Patience*.

Recent recital performances include a program of African-American Art Songs and Spirituals in Orlando, Fla., and a faculty solo recital at the University of Montevallo.

George has competed suc-

cessfully in several vocal competitions including the Metropolitan Opera Auditions, National Association of Teachers of Singing Artist Awards (NAT-SAA), the Orpheus National Competition for Vocalist, Florida Suncoast Opera Guild, National Society of Arts and Letters, Rose Palmar-Tenser Competition, MacAllister Awards, and the Florida Grand Opera National Young Artist Auditions.

He holds degrees from The Florida State University, Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, and Stillman College.

He received additional training in opera as an apprentice artist with Des Moines Metro Opera and was one of twelve voice teachers selected nationwide to participate in the 2004 NATS Intern Program at Colorado State University.

He is a member of the National Association of Teachers of Singing, Pi Kappa Lambda National Music Honor Society, Mu Phi Epsilon Music Fraternity, and the College Music Society.

George currently serves on the music faculty at the University of Montevallo where he teaches applied voice, vocal literature, and diction.

The other concerts for March are:

March 1—1 p.m.

UA Piano Students of Amanda Penick;
Alabama Power Recital Hall

March 8—1 p.m.

Dr. Roderick George, tenor;
University of Montevallo Music Faculty;

Alabama Power Recital Hall

March 15—1:00 p.m.

Shelton State Jazz Band;
Dr. Alan Blackshear, Director

*Bean Brown Theatre

March 17—7:30 p.m.

An Evening with Alan Blackshear: A Sampler of the Composer's Works;

*Bean Brown Theatre

March 20—3 p.m.

Shelton Singers Sacred Concert;

*Covenant Presbyterian Church

March 22—1 p.m.

Musicale
Featuring Shelton State applied students;

Alabama Power Recital Hall

Just try it! Day Spa relaxers

By Elizabeth White
Staff Writer

College is a stressful time in life. With tests and assignments, projects and papers, and hectic work schedules, a students can quickly find themselves stressed out. While a bit on the pricey side, day spas can offer a variety of ways to relax.

At least two day spas vie for business in the Tuscaloosa area: Image Makers and Le Spa at Image Makers as well as Bella, a Beauty, Wellness, and Day Spa. Both offer the basics, such as manicures, pedicures, body wraps, facials, massages, and waxing.

Which is best for a college student like myself?

Probably the most important service at a day spa is its massages. Both Image Makers and Bella offer these.

Image Makers is unique in that it offers a "fifteen minute express chair" massage starting at a mere \$20. It also offers the standard 30 and 60-minute massages, prices starting at \$40 and \$60, respectively.

For Bella, massages are priced a little differently. Unlike Image Makers, Bella's massages are all one cost.

So, while a 60-minute massage is priced higher at \$72, the true value of the massage received depends on the amount of time and massage choice. Bella's 30-minute massages are \$40.

Living on a college budget doesn't give much room for pampering and shopping sprees.

Image Maker's 15-minute massage is a quick relaxation fix for those without the time and money to spend.

Got a big interview? Both Bella and Image Makers offer make-up application sessions.

Bella allows sessions of 30 to 45 minutes for such a service, pricing it at \$40 and up.

Image Makers, on the other hand, offers it's make-up session at only \$25 and up. Furthermore, they advertise that a free customized session is complimentary with any other service.

A lady can't wear pantyhose with hairy legs. Both spas also offer waxing, though with prices reflecting the "vacation in a day" sentiment associated with the businesses.

Bella starts its waxing at \$12 for such areas as lips, brows, and chin. Image Makers offers lips at the flat rate of \$10, but charges more for brows depending on the complexity of the individual.

For those with embarrassing chin hair, there is no price advertised for Image Makers.

As prices get higher, Bella wins out. A full leg wax costs only \$90, while Image Makers charges a full \$10 more.

When it comes to removing unwanted hair, though, my advice is simple: skip the spa. Buy Nair.

Even in your early twenties, acne can prove troublesome. Both spas offer a small solution: acne facials. Image Makers offers a 90 minute K-2 facial for \$80. Bella's own version of an acne treatment costs \$80 and lasts for an hour.

If you just want a simple, relaxing, facial without the high prices and long waits, Bella offers their revitalizing mini facial, a 30 minute facial, for \$45.

Image Makers offers its own, noting that it is "especially good for teens." For this

facial, there is no time or price difference.

For a busy college student, stress can take its toll. While a little pricey, spas can offer the occasional afternoon of relaxation to rejuvenate a worn out student.

Appointments for a spa should be made a week or so in advance. It is good judgment to cancel an appointment at least 24 hours in advance, as some treatments require chemicals and solutions mixed in advance.

Image Makers is on the corner of Lurleen Wallace and University Blvd. They are open Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9 a.m.—7 p.m., and Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m.—6 p.m. This spa is closed on Mondays, Saturdays, and Sundays. To make an appointment or request further information on their services call (205) 366-1986.

Bella Day Spa is located on 15th Street, across the road from the Mitsubishi dealership. Their salon hours are Monday 9 a.m.—6 p.m.; Tuesday-Thursday 9 a.m.—8 p.m.; Friday 9 a.m.—7 p.m.; and Saturday 9 a.m.—5 p.m. They are closed on Sundays. To make an appointment or request further information on their services call (205) 752-1909.

Time doesn't always lend itself to researching something you're interested in. Each release I will research a different activity, comparing the prices and availability of select competitors. If you have something you've been curious about but haven't had the time or resources to find out more, drop us a line at courier@sheltonstate.edu.

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Salesman offers 'textbook' drama

In basketball, if you get into a game with players better than you, they may very well take you to school in the course of play.

So the attentive and intelligent participant gets more out of the occasion than just exercise, it becomes a real learning experience.

If you'll go see Theatre Tuscaloosa's current production of Arthur Miller's *Death of a Salesman* in the college's Bean-Brown Theatre, you'll get more out of it than entertainment: they'll school you in some of the finer points of "play."

Your first teacher will be the playwright himself. You've learned in lit class that *Salesman* is probably the Great American Drama, and you're bound to see why when you get to actually see it produced.

Willy Loman, the central protagonist, is so obviously representative of any low man who's actually dreamed big and failed.

This is what is called a cautionary tale, for Willy has had plenty of warnings throughout his life, and they continue throughout the show, that his dreams are off-kilter and destructive, but he stays the course out of pride.

In classic tragedy that's called hubris, and Willy's "got it in spades," as they might have said in the 40s.

The theatre-goer/student is in masterful hands with the recently deceased Miller, as he guides us through the parameters of the American dream with humor and pathos.

The joshing neighbor, the oblivious boss, the long-suffering wife, the

overly successful brother and other devices and stock characters are used masterfully to elevate Willy's fate to the greatest of significance.

Willy is, indeed, redeemed by his neighbor Charley, who has been his chief tormentor throughout the play and throughout his life, when he gives his famous poetic "no one dast blame this man" speech.

Tom Canterbury as Bernard poignantly and gracefully gives Willy a lesson in what playing by the rules and taking on the challenges of life realistically can produce.

Maybe it's too late for Willy to learn, but perhaps it's not too late for us.

None of these lessons, however, would be possible without the right "low man" to guide us. Jeff Wilson is a full professor Willy Loman.

He is every blowhard you've ever winced for, because you knew he was covering up something sad.

He is every aggravating dad you've ever shook your head over, because you knew his heart but not his head was in the right place.

Wilson as Willy is planting seeds throughout the play that will probably never sprout, let alone bear fruit.

But he, like us, is out there on a smile and a shoeshine hoping desperately that they'll keep smiling back at him. But when they don't, that's an earthquake.

So you gotta dream, the play finally teaches us, you gotta dream! It comes with the territory.

Death of a Salesman continues Feb. 23-27 in the Bean-Brown.

Baseball From Page 1

Sprowl feels the time is better spent playing good teams. This competition helps answer any questions the team might have before the regular season begins, and, win or lose, the experience is invaluable.

On Wednesday, the Bucs started things off by splitting a double header with Okaloosa-Walton Community College, winning the first game 12-0, and dropping the second 8-0. Pitcher Brett Bowen turned in a spectacular performance in game one, tossing six innings of three-hit ball while striking out five and walking only three batters. Offensively, Shelton was led by Corey Carter, who was 4 for 5 with two driven in. Brian Sprowl went 3 for 4 and Ben Daw went 2 for 3, with both players driving in a pair of runs.

Unfortunately, the Bucs couldn't keep the bats hot going into game two. Pitcher Jake Edwards kept Okaloosa at bay for four innings, surrendering only four. But run support was lacking and Shelton eventually dropped the game 8-0. Edwards was charged with the loss.

On Friday, the Bucs squared off against Truett-McConnell Community College of Georgia. Nursing a three run lead going into the eighth, Shelton then gave up six unearned runs while Truett went on to win 12-9. Justin Hollis took the loss, despite an impressive performance where he struck out seven in four-plus innings of two hit ball. Left-fielder Corey Carter continued his torrid hitting with a 3 for 5 day including a two run homer. Right-fielder Cortez Pearson and D.H. Daniel Wall also chipped in with three hits apiece.

The Bucs went into Saturday's game with a 1-3 record.

In Saturday's game, Adam Keenum led the way with a perfect four-for-four at the plate. And the Bucs out-hit Gulf coast (Florida) Community College 14-8.

Cortez Pearson earned four RBIs with two hits.

Matt Sparks won the game for Shelton, letting in four runs and tallying four strikeouts, in four innings.

The Bucs improved their record to 2-3.

Coach Sprowl and the Bucs hope to see everyone come out for their home opener on Tuesday, Feb. 22



Commencement at Flowerhill, spring 2004

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but where
you're going.*

*It's not about
who you are,
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Basketball From Page 1

still performing at a high level, may be looking for their second wind in the long-distance run that is a basketball season.

Case in point was the most recent games between the Buccaneers and Gadsden State. Both teams won close games; indeed, the men were forced into overtime before they could put away the pesky Cardinals.

However, the Lady Bucs seemed a little less sharp than they were earlier in the season—and seemed to win with more grit and determination than precision and inspiration.

After the team missed several free throws, Christine Ayers finally came through in

the clutch, icing the game at the line, 85-81.

The men ran into a buzzsaw with the Cardinal squad. The lads from G-town were the only ones to beat the Bucs this year and came into the Umphrey Center with the swagger that suggested they could do it again.

With a short but very fast lineup, they were able to match the tall, athletic sharpshooting home team shot for shot.

Tuscaloosa hasn't seen such break-neck drives to the basket since



Latrell Spreewell as the crowd is treated to each game by Tarrance Crump of Shelton. Head down, legs pumping like pistons, Crump flies in low and, more often than not, finds a way to drop the ball in the basket no matter what or who tries to intervene. Against Gadsden, Crump's sprinting derring-do accounted for 29 of the 119 Shelton scored (vs. 113 for Gadsden).

Both teams take on Wallace-Hanceville on the Monday, Feb. 21 publication date of the *Courier*.

The fans' next chance to take in the name-brand excitement of Buc basketball at home is Saturday, Feb. 26.

How I became a Buc

By Leonard Scott
Special to the *Courier*

My trip started back in December of 2002 in Montgomery, Ala.

My high school team, Calhoun, had traveled there to play Sidney Lanier.

I was one of the star players and was averaging 17 points and 13 rebounds a game.

I was being highly recruited across the state and also by schools nationwide.

But it was on this night I would meet my next coach. Barry Mohun, the head coach of Shelton State, was at the game.

He also brought his wife, Susan Mohun. After the game we met and they were really nice and made me feel special.

Mrs. Mohun is from my home county and she said she would love to have a "Lowndes County" guy on their team. But I was still unsure.

There were offers from far away and offers close to home, so I had a big decision ahead of me.

But first, I had a senior season to finish. We went 30-5 and brought home a 3A state



Leonard Scott (#40) has been a dominating inside force for the Buccaneers this season.

championship. I was winning a lot of awards and getting attention in the media and from college coaches.

The phone in my house rang constantly. Coaches from Beville, Faulkner, Lawson and other junior colleges across the nation were trying to convince me to go JUCO.

UAB, Troy State, Alabama A&M and South Alabama were waiting to see my final grades to determine if I would

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**Men's and Women's
Division I
State Basketball Tournament
March 6-12, 2005
Hosted at
Shelton State Community College
Tuscaloosa, Alabama**

Women's Tournament

Sunday, March 6

2:00 p.m.- Game 1
4:00 p.m.- Game 2
6:00 p.m.- Game 3
8:00 p.m.- Game 4

Monday, March 7

2:00 p.m.- Game 5
4:00 p.m.- Game 6
6:00 p.m.- Game 7
8:00 p.m.- Game 8

Tuesday, March 8

6:00 p.m.- Game 9- Semi-Final
8:00 p.m.- Game 10- Semi-Final

Men's Tournament

Wednesday, March 9

12:00 p.m.- Game 1
2:00 p.m.- Game 2
4:00 p.m.- Game 3
6:00 p.m.- Game 4

Women's Championship Game 8:00 p.m.

Thursday, March 10

2:00 p.m.- Game 5
4:00 p.m.- Game 6
6:00 p.m.- Game 7
8:00 p.m.- Game 8

Friday, March 11

6:00 p.m.- Game 9- Semi-Final
8:00 p.m.- Game 10- Semi-Final

Saturday, March 12

Men's Championship Game 8:00 p.m.



- HOT PIZZA
- BEER CAVE
- DRY CLEANERS
- CAR WASH

On Hwy. 69
right by
Shelton



Top-rated JC recruit Kiana Robinson talks about her Southern sojourn



Photo/Brandon Lovett

Kiana Robinson is the no. 1 national junior college recruit. She is heading all the way to UA this fall.

Lady Buccaneer guard Kiana Robinson is not your typical Deep South community college athlete. To be sure, many of the roundballers in the Alabama community college league are superb athletes, just as capable of playing big-time basketball as anyone, if the breaks had gone their way. But Robinson's is a special case—not only is she an excellent player, but she has now jumped through plenty of hoops just to be able to play them.

Her first hoop took her from New York City to the hallowed hardwood grounds of the University of Connecticut. Robinson successfully negotiated that hoop at first, but was not ready for the highest level of competition and the rigors of college-level coursework at the same time.

Robinson next found her way to the University of Alabama, but, lo and behold,

her academic problems from Connecticut also followed her to Tuscaloosa. Enter Shelton State Community College, a haven for students who will earnestly fight for a second chance. Named recently the JC top recruit by All-Star Girls Report, Robinson has already signed with the University of Alabama, which keeps the last hoop she has to leap through close by.

Last semester, the *Courier* asked Robinson to keep a journal of her thoughts as she attempted to make a home for herself in the deep South, far from her Big Apple home. Here are a few brief excerpts:

9/7/04: "Sometimes I wish I never left... Now I just have to make the best of it. I have a good coach and nice teammates that I never had before. And this time I'm going to do everything in my power to make this situation and chapter in my life work. I know there are a lot of people who

are counting on me back home and there are a lot of people who are waiting for me to fail again but this time I'm not. I'm going to prove all those people wrong and show them that people from where I come from can make it out."

Kiana has some ups and down with the friends she makes from her team; she is surprised, at first, that she can make such good friends down South. At one point she makes some non-basketball friends and that's a relief because sometimes "you just need to be around people that do not play a sport."

Kiana makes a good friend named Quay and things are going pretty smoothly until nature intervenes. Hurricane Ivan scares the bejeebers out of the big city girl. Her mom tells her to fly home, and she tries, but the airport closes down and she manages to ride it out.

A physical hurdle for

Kiana becomes the mile run in under 7:30 by guards required by the program. She can't understand the requirement at first.

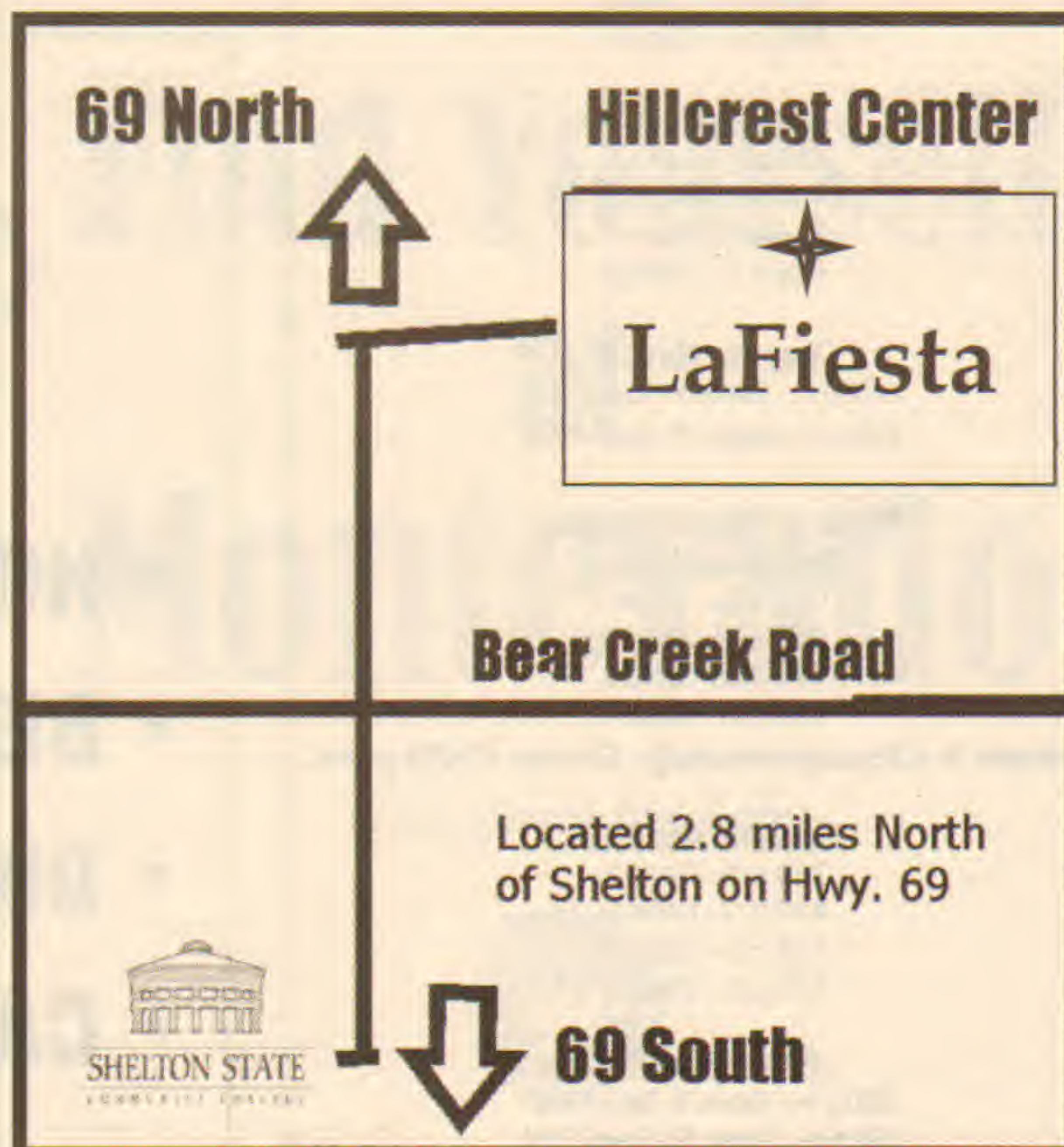
9/20/04: "... I never ran the mile when I was in high school or Connecticut and that was the number one school in the country. And at first I thought it was stupid and sometimes I still do but after a while you see that it is only a mental thing and if you can do that you can do a lot of things when it comes to basketball." Kiana's time was usually around 8 mins. or even 8:30, but finally, on Sept. 27 she makes 7:25—that called for a night on the town!

Official practice begins the end of September for Robinson and the other Lady Bucs. And she is quickly reminded what a grind the life

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Gracias



Robinson From Page 6

of the athlete is: hour after hour of practice, weight-lifting, study halls and classes. In the gym things aren't always serene either.

10/5/04: "Today was good with me and my teammates. We didn't fight all practice which was good because we get mad a lot at each other in practice because we all want to win when we play against one another." On top of the pressures and physical exertions, Kiana is still homesick, even though she seems to have made lots of friends, of both sexes.

In October practice intensifies and Coach Madonna Thompson has impressed upon them all the need to play hard. 10/8/04: "...all the teams in our conference are very good. So we have to show up every game when conference play starts. But besides basketball I'm fine but stressing about classes because my math and chemistry classes are very hard."

The season starts in earnest and Kiana sees that her coach tells the truth. They get off to a fast start, but lose a game on Nov. 16 to Northwest Mississippi, even though Kiana had stellar statistics: 31 points, 16 rebounds and 10 assists. But the loss hurts. "The whole night I couldn't sleep because we lost to a team that we have no business losing to."

After suffering through sickness at the end of November, Kiana gets up for a game against Lurleen B. Wallace, and her journal reveals that the women's game is not always sugar and spice and all things nice. 11/30/04: "we are going to kill them because they talk so much stuff about us and how much better they are than us which they really are not because the first time we played them we won by 23 and this time we won by 29 points and I had a career-high 8 steals in one game."

At the end of the term, Kiana has friends and victories to feel good about, though she gets mad at them sometimes, especially when they fail to show up at games after promising to do so. Sometimes she's still homesick, but sometimes she finds herself having to deal with problems back home via long distance, which is even worse.

12/8/04: "...a lot of people think that athletes do not have their own problems to deal with. The reason I say that is because every time something goes wrong with my family they always call me like I know what to say all the time, which I do not. The only thing I know is that I'm too young to be feeling the way I feel..."

All in all, though, Kiana Robinson has a great fall semester and by mid-February she is having an even better spring semester.

Osmore and Freeman noted

Jimmy Osmore, Instructional Support Specialist at Shelton State, will speak to a group of Tuscaloosa County School System special education students on Friday, Feb. 25 at the request of Toni Franklin, executive director of United Cerebral Palsy of West Alabama, Inc.

UCPWA serves the community by providing a full array of beneficial services and resources to individuals with disabilities and their families and by advocating their full independence, productivity, and citizenship.

UCPWS also educates through public awareness, fund-raising efforts, and dissemination of information and acquisition of resources.

Nancy Freeman, mathematics instructor at Shelton

State Community College, has been nominated to Who's Who Among American Teachers. Freeman is in her fourth year as a teacher at Shelton State where she teaches business statistics, as well as math classes from MTH 098 to Calculus III.

Teachers in the Who's Who Among America's Teachers program are nominated by students listed in Who's Who Among American High School Students, The National Dean's List and Who's Who Among American High School Students - Sports Edition, publications honoring our nation's top high school and college students. Approximately 156,000 teachers are featured in the current edition of Who's Who Among America's Teachers.

It's timeout—and time for Larry Walker to do his thing

By Steven Harden
Staff Writer

With all due respect to the fantastic, high-flying basketball players who either play for Shelton or against them, one of the best athletes to step on the court for any given game doesn't do his thing until timeout is called.

He is Larry Walker Jr., a member of the Shelton State cheerleading squad, and he performs some of the most amazing tumbling runs most people have ever seen. He flips the length of the court, throwing in walk-overs as well as a dozen handsprings in a row or so.

Although he's already served a stint on the University of Alabama cheerleading team as well as Shelton's, Walker's tumbling ability is self-taught.

"I went to McAdory High, home of the great Bo Jackson," Walker recounted.

"I never cheered in high school. I played football and I wrestled. I was an all state offensive tackle and defensive end. I really didn't start cheering until I joined the all-star

competition squad my senior year. I taught myself pretty much everything. It takes a lot of hard work, and being focused all the time."

It also takes a degree of physical courage to be such a spectacular tumbling performer.

Walker will show you with a big smile the soft spot on his bald cranium where he took his first nasty spill—as a kid falling out of a tree after a series of acrobatic tree-limb maneuvers "Oh yeah, I have smashed my head lots of times," he said with a grin.

For such a physical fellow, Walker has his sensitive side—as evidenced by his major. "I'm an art major, I love to draw and paint," he said.

"I'm enrolled full time and I work full time. It's tough, but I've been supporting myself for two years now. I guess you could say I'm pretty inde-



Larry Walker's tumbling runs as a Shelton State cheerleader would be worth the price of admission just in themselves, even if admission weren't free to Shelton students.

pendent."

Walker's combination of scary-delight is represented in his favorite movie. "I love *Little Shop of Horror*! I was raised with a VCR that only had rewind on it, so every time I put that movie in we just watched it over and over. It became the only movie I watched for a while, so I got hooked."

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qualify for Division I.

And every few days Coach Mohun would call. And he would put Mrs. Mohun on the phone and she got me to promise I would make at least one visit to Shelton.

I visited Alabama Southern and Alabama State and then made my visit to Shelton.

I quickly felt a sense of security, like I wouldn't be leaving home but just going to a new family.

My two best friends were also invited to visit and Coach Mohun wanted all three of us to sign.

He said we were champions and he liked to sign champions because we know what it takes to win and we don't like to lose.

And we couldn't disappoint Mrs. Mohun. She want-

ed some Lowndes County boys to take care of.

Even though I ended up making the grades to go to a bigger Division I, I chose Shelton.

It was best for me as far as my education and so that my basketball skills could progress.

Shelton State has been a great experience, and I'm glad the road led here. Now, I'm just taking the turns to see where the road leads next.

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Starlets popular half-time entertainment



Half-time at Shelton's basketball games has star-quality entertainment with Shelton's dance team. The 2005 Shelton State Starlets are Ashley Anders, sophomore from Northport; Liz Connell, sophomore from Northport; Brittani Henson, sophomore from Tuscaloosa; Nikki Sharp, sophomore from Northport; Brooke Atcheson, freshman from Chatom; Falon Baltzell, freshman from Moundville; Kelly Newton, freshman from Duncanville; Carla Pennington, freshman from Chatom; Brittany Turner, freshman from Tuscaloosa; Brandy Warner, freshman from Fayette; DeAnna Wise, freshman from Duncanville.

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